WHAT IS CLAIMED:

1 1. An automatic meter reading (AMR) system, comprising:

2   a reader;

3   a plurality of battery-powered receivers, wherein at least a portion of said

4 plurality of said battery-powered receivers are operably connected to a utility meter,

5 wherein each electrically-powered receiver within the portion of battery powered

6 receivers has a bubble-up period of X seconds; and

7   a plurality of electrically-powered receivers, wherein at least a portion of said

8 plurality of said electrically-powered receivers are operably connected to a utility meter,

9 wherein each electrically-powered receiver within the portion of electrically-powered

10 receivers has a bubble-up period of Y seconds;

11   wherein said reader is in wireless communication with the portion of battery-

12 powered receivers and reads the portion of battery-powered receivers every Z hours, and

13 wherein said reader is in wireless communication with the portion of electrically-powered

14 receivers and reads the portion of electrically-powered receivers every W minutes, and

15 wherein only (Y/X)*100% of the portion of battery-powered receivers are bubbled-up

16 during a read by said reader of the portion of electrically-powered receivers.

1 2. The AMR system of claim 1, wherein each electrically-powered receiver within the

2 portion of electrically-powered receivers are read on average of (1440/W) times per day and

3   wherein each battery-powered receiver within the portion of battery-powered receivers are read

4   on average of (Y/X) * (1440/W) times per day.

1   3.   The AMR system of claim 1, wherein said AMR system reduces falsing of each battery-

2   powered receiver within the portion of battery-powered receivers by (1-(Y/X))*100%.

1   4.   The AMR system of claim 1, wherein said reader establishes a read time and wherein

2   said read time is continuously sequenced by +Y seconds until +X seconds from a nominal.

1   5.   The AMR system of claim 4, wherein each sequenced read time bubbles up a different

2   (Y/X)*100 of the portion of battery-powered receivers.

1   6.   The AMR system of claim 1, wherein the portion of battery-powered receivers

2   communicate with said reader on the same frequency channels as the portion of electrically-

3   powered receivers communicate with said reader.

1   7.   A method for automatically reading a plurality of utility meters, wherein a portion of said

2   plurality of utility meters are each operably connected to a battery-powered receiver and wherein

3   a portion of said plurality of utility meters are each operably connected to an electrically-

4   powered receiver, wherein each of said battery-powered receivers has a bubble-up period of X

5   seconds and wherein each of said electrically-powered receivers has a bubble-up period of Y

6   seconds, and wherein each of said receivers is capable of being wirelessly read by a reader, the

7   method comprising the steps of:

8   establishing a read period for said battery-powered receivers;

9   establishing a minute-based read period for said electrically-powered receivers,

10   wherein said read period is represented by W;

11   reading said electrically-powered receivers on average of 1440/W times per day;

12   and

13   reading said battery-powered receivers on average of $(Y/X) * (1440/W)$ times per

14   day.

1   8.   The method of claim 9, further comprising the step of bubbling up $(Y/X)*100\%$ of said

2   battery powered receivers upon reading said electrically-powered receivers.

1   9.   The method of claim 9, wherein said method reduces falsing of each battery-powered

2   receiver by $(1-(Y/X))*100\%$.

1   10.   The method of claim 9, further comprising the steps of establishing a read time for said

2   reader and sequencing said read time by +Y seconds until +X seconds from a nominal is reached.

1   11.   The method of claim 10, wherein each sequenced read time bubbles up a different

2    $(Y/X)*100\%$ of the battery-powered receivers.

1   12.   The method of claim 9, wherein said battery-powered receivers communicate on the

2   same frequency channels as the electrically-powered receivers.

1   13.   An automatic meter reading (AMR) system, comprising:

2   a reader; and

3   a plurality of utility meters, wherein a portion of said plurality of utility meters are

4   each operably connected to a battery-powered receiver and wherein a portion of said

5   plurality of utility meters are each operably connected to an electrically-powered

6   receiver, wherein each of said battery-powered receivers has a bubble-up period of X

7   seconds and wherein each of said electrically-powered receivers has a bubble-up period

8   of Y seconds and a minute-based read period of W, and wherein each of said receivers is

9   capable of being wirelessly read by said reader,

10   wherein said reader reads said electrically-powered receivers on average of

11   1440/W times per day and wherein said reader reads said battery-powered receivers on

12   average of (Y/X)*(1440/W) times per day.

1   14.   The AMR system of claim 13, wherein said reader bubbles up (Y/X)*100% of the

2   battery-powered receivers upon reading the electrically-powered receivers.

1   15.   The AMR system of claim 13, wherein the AMR system reduces falsing of the battery-

2   powered receiver by (1-(Y/X))*100%.

1   16.   The AMR system of claim 13, wherein said reader has a read time and wherein said read

2   time is sequenced by +Y seconds until +X seconds from a nominal is reached.

1   17.   The AMR system of claim 16, wherein each sequenced read time results in said reader

2   bubbling up a different (Y/X)*100% of the battery-powered receivers.

1   18.   The AMR system of claim 13, wherein said battery-powered receiver communicates on

2   the same frequency channels as the electrically-powered receiver.